

Assessing Cybercrime Awareness among Indian Young Adults and its Impact on their Satisfaction with Life

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ABSTRACT

The primary research aims at Assessing Cybercrime Awareness Among Indian Young adults and its Impact on their satisfaction with life. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 200 Indian Young Adults between the age bracket of 18-25 years. Cross Section Design was used to study and understand the relationship between the variables mentioned above. The statistical tool used was Correlational Analysis to establish and understand the relationship between Cybercrime Awareness and satisfaction with life and a negative correlation was observed between the two variables. Moreover, respondents in the sample have a moderate level of cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life. Additionally, the standard deviation suggests that there is some variability in cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life scores among respondents. Furthermore, another statistical tool used for this study was Regression Analysis which showcased that the model did not present a significant fit. Hence, there was no variance explained by cybercrime awareness on satisfaction with life. Limitations and Applications of the study have also been mentioned.

Keywords: *Cybercrime Awareness, Indian Young Adults, Satisfaction with Life*

We are operating in the digital era where most individual around the globe are turning to the internet for most of their daily activities. The utilization of the internet has immensely seen a rise in the past few years. “In 2020, it was reported that 5.05 billion individuals around the globe access the internet which in other words is equal to 65% of the entire world’s population in the year 2020” (Internet world stats, 2020). “An average individual who utilizes the internet is seen to be online for approximately six and a half hours each day. Additionally, in 2020, a study showed that social networking sites comprised of 3.7 billion people utilizing it which is equal to 48% of the global population” (Kemp 2020). India is considered to be one of the known countries to be witnessing most rapidly developing economies around the globe.

Internet has become the need of the hour. We clearly cannot survive without the internet anymore because of the digitalization. Most definitely the internet has become an excellent provider of knowledge and information in addition to being the most common form of communication. People are now seen to be communicating with individuals sitting on the other end of the globe within seconds. This is the most significant advantage of the internet

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that has contributed in bringing the world together. Digital technology has significantly transformed and radically altered the way society runs in the last few decades. Even though the internet has numerous distinctive attributes, it still comes with its own drawbacks which includes inappropriate usage of the internet and misusing gadgets and devices for malpractices, one of them being cybercrime. Currently protecting the younger adults from all sorts of cybercrimes has become a significant issue as well as an urgent concern for most parents.

The term “cybercrime” essentially refers to illegal behaviour in addition to any criminal activity with the help of the internet and various gadgets and devices (Parker, 2014). In the current times, cybercrime has been reported to be one of the crimes that is both detrimental as well as highly widespread all around the world. With a significant rise in various kinds of devices, emerging technologies and gadgets, numerous people have been observed indulging in cybercrimes for various reasons (Gjata, 2007). Cybercrime has become a very controversial as well as a delicate subject. Awareness regarding cybercrime is being created in society especially among the young adults which they do tend to comprehend by all means. Awareness about cybercrime has also been known to increase satisfaction with life. Cybercrime has become alarmingly rampant in India in the past few years. “According to a report the overall rates of cybercrimes had risen to almost 102% in Indian where majorly such occurrences took place in Mumbai, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana between 2005-2009” (Cybercell, 2010).

This current study’s main purpose is to comprehend and make an attempt in assessing the degree to which young adults have knowledge regarding cybercrime. Additionally, the study aims at gaining an insight about the impacts of cybercrime on satisfaction with life amongst the younger generations. From the point of view of social psychology, it is believed that the disparity in life satisfaction levels among young adults could be efficiently comprehended by understanding the degree to which young adults have awareness in respect to cybercrime, other than experiencing cybercrime altogether.

Types of Cybercrime:

Cyberstalking- The act of tracking and stalking an individual on an online platform is considered as cyberstalking. It is a specific kind of abuse where an individual’s confidentiality is breached in addition to them being monitored and observed at all times. This leads the individual to feel ostracised and intimidated which can majorly impact their life.

Cyberbullying- Cyberbullying comprises of various kinds of inappropriate online activities. The improper utilization of the mobile devices, internet or other ICTs to harass an individual and cause damage to their reputation is significantly considered as cyberbullying.

Online Defamation- As the name suggests, online defamation takes place when someone disparages or defames an individual online. This may be done by either uploading defaming information or content on an online platform or by forwarding incorrect and inappropriate emails to the victim’s associations.

Email Fraud/Spoofing- When an email pretends to be sent by a specific individual but in reality, has been sent by somebody else is considered as a forged email.

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Cyber Pornography- An online platform that encourages and uploads images and content which is pornographic is known as cyber pornography.

Cyber Viruses- A piece of software that attempts to modify other systems or software is known to be called as a virus. The most prominent techniques utilized to spread a virus on systems is through deceiving an individual by tricking them to download, open or click on a link or file attachment sent via an email.

The Origins and Obstacles of cybercrime:

Although there can be end number of causes of cybercrime, but the most widespread and significant causes are that an individual can indulge in cybercrimes due to their own sentiments, attitudes and emotions (Kamruzzaman et al, 2016). A lot of times, most cyber criminals indulge in cybercrimes for monetary purposes. Since, such cybercriminals operate beneath a system, hence they have a very lower likelihood of being detected or caught. This encourages and enables them to dictate and ask for a large reward in money (Iqbal & Beigh, 2017). Many cyber criminals perform cybercrimes as a way to showcase their frustration regarding a specific organization, individual or sometimes governments (Kumar & Kumar, 2015).

In addition to the significant causes of cybercrime, there are few relevant challenges that are also significant in current times. Technology has become a very relevant and important part of our daily lives without which daily functioning can be proved to be difficult. At the same time this same technology which makes our everyday life easier has evidently begun to have detrimental impacts on the individuals and community as a whole (Luppisini, 2009). Another very important but less researched challenge is the lack of knowledge and information required to shed light and track the intricacy of technology and human operations that give rise to cybercrime. Since every now and then, cybercrime rates are seen to be increasing with new forms of cybercrimes emerging, there is inadequate information, comprehension and awareness about cybercrimes which is highly contributing to become a very relevant challenge (Lin & Luppisini, 2011).

The age group most affected by cybercrimes:

According to studies, “20.5% of the population around the globe comprises of young adults who fall into the age bracket of 18-25 years. Since individuals falling into this age bracket utilize electronic technology the most in comparison to other age groups, these individuals are also the ones who easily and most frequently fall into the trap of cybercrimes” Lefort and Pierson (2008).

Social media has completely changed the world from what it was few years back. It has made gathering information as well as sharing information a much easier task than before. Everything is now on everyone’s fingertips. Now internet is used not only for these above-mentioned tasks but also for accessing e-mails, booking flight, train and movie tickets, for shopping items from various brands and for even making online payments (Dwyer et al 2007). Almost all young adults are on social media. Social media has become a part of their daily lives from where they derive their belongingness, emotional needs and they are mostly seen portraying a perfect life on these social media platforms. Moreover, what young adults fail to understand is that sharing one’s Credit/debit card PINs, e-mail passwords and other important passwords must be avoided at all costs. Most youngsters even after being aware

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about the risks involved in doing this still take this very lightly and share important information with others (Dwyer et al 2007).

One of the reasons why cybercrime perpetrators are successful in gathering information and hacking devices and accounts is because most young adults show negligence while operating on the internet as they assume that their activity is not being observed online which is not true. Youngsters don't realize that sensitive content must not be posted on the internet as it can be misused by cybercrime attackers for various inappropriate and illegal work (Dwyer et al 2007).

According to a report by Times of India, "Most young adults between the age brackets of 18-30 years of age were found to be indulging in cybercrimes and the rate of cybercrimes has witnessed a rise of almost 53.7% in the last few years" (Times of India). Few possible reasons why young adults are seen to be becoming cybercrime criminals is due to unemployment as doing such illegal work makes it easier for them to earn money and thus becomes a source of easy money. A lot of young adults also happen to commit certain cybercrimes due to the need to be accepted by their peers or due to lack of attention given to them. Additionally, for many youngsters the thin line between what is considered to be morally right and morally wrong gets blurred which is why they become involved in cybercrime unintentionally (Security Intelligence, 2022).

"The biannual cybercrime report which was taken out by LexisNexis Risk Solutions brought forward that individuals prone to fall into the trap of cybercrimes is also the age group below 25 years" (Security Magazine, 2021).

At the same time, it would be erroneous to put all the blame on the young adults for this. Some individuals also become part of these cybercrimes due to being guided on the incorrect path or because of poor upbringing and parents not being able to keep a check on their child's activities in addition to lack of time due to busy schedules of parents. It is very important to educate young adults about the various types of cybercrimes prevailing in society. They are a very fragile and vulnerable as well as delicate population which requires proper guidance, support, appropriate parenting and love. Surely this cannot completely put an end to the rates of cybercrimes taking place in the world but it would be successful in reducing the number of cybercrimes taking place involving young adults. It is the need of the hour to enforce proper cyber laws that are much sterner in their approach and an effective and efficient legal system needs to be employed.

Cybercrime Prevention:

- Make sure to use strong passwords for securing one's data on the internet.
- Verify that the firewalls and antivirus applications being utilized are the ones which are of recent versions.
- Make sure not to share any delicate or private information on social media platforms/on the internet.
- Make sure that proper security settings are being maintained in your surroundings.
- Keep yourself up to date about the upcoming technologies that can be utilized to secure data online in addition to keeping oneself aware about the current risks emerging in online activities.

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- Avoid visiting sites which are unreliable and be careful while downloading any type of documents or files from online platforms.
- Inform the authorities if at any given point of time one witnesses any sort of cybercrime.

We are in dire need for a better education system, huge modifications is called for in terms of upbringing and social awareness. Youngsters are a sensitive and tender group and need to be dealt with better care and protection. They need time and need to be talked out with the help of love and care. It does not guarantee that no offending by youth will be considered or committed but reduces the risk to a minimal level. Stringent law enforcement, better judiciary setup can discourage youngsters from committing such crimes but why wait for others to better your world when you, yourself can take a step more and stop it from being.

Satisfaction with Life:

A broad and analytical evaluation of one's general quality of life is called life satisfaction. Particularly, a wide range of factors, such as sociodemographic ones including age, gender, psychological traits, employment, home, family, involvement in leisure activities, and pleasure of leisure, affect life satisfaction (Kuykendall et al., 2015). Life satisfaction is essentially a personal evaluation of one's level of happiness. Life satisfaction ratings have a significant mental aspect because they are by their very nature an assessment.

Theory of Satisfaction of Life:

One of the most famous theory of satisfaction with life is the bottom-up theory. This theory explores the relationship between several dimensions of fulfilment and overall contentment in one's life (Erdogan et al., 2012). Since individuals evaluate each sector differently, life satisfaction cannot be simply calculated as the average of field satisfaction. Based on the bottom-up perspective, responses given by people regarding their level of life satisfaction are a intricate result of how satisfied they are in many different sectors of their lives. While some individuals are seen to value their jobs or health more than their recreation, on the other hand some are seen to view leisure as the most important component of their lives. (Newman et al., 2014). It has been shown that contentment with different sectors that align with one's ideals is more crucial to one's total contentment. (Oishi et al., 1999). In their estimates of life satisfaction, people who place a great priority on relationships and success, tend to give different weights to job and family satisfaction. However, job satisfaction does not predict life satisfaction when personality factors and nonwork satisfaction are considered. (e.g., Rode, 2004).

Satisfaction with Life among Young Adults:

A fundamental idea in positive psychology is life satisfaction. Many people have struggles with life, but young people confront additional challenges related to transition and managing their growing social network. (Adams, 2019). All of us experience a variety of mental health issues when our psychological wellbeing is compromised, but young people are particularly vulnerable to these issues since their social networks and obligations are expanding along with them. (Gómez, Viejo & Ortega-Ruiz, 2019). Additionally, some researches have demonstrated that mental well-being helps people cope with trauma and stress (Twenge, 2019). Developing greater mastery over the environment can improve one's happiness. Being proficient in important facets of life, such, relationships, finances, leisure, health, education, career, opportunity, and other difficulties with the environment, leads naturally to happiness. (Chitra & Karunanidhi, 2021). Once someone reaches proficiency, they are

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capable of handling challenges in their life as well as those pertaining to their environment. A person is happy when they are able to handle challenging circumstances and organise their surroundings in accordance with their principles and goals. (Verner-Filion, 2017).

Is Satisfaction with Life a Constant Variable:

A person's projections for the future, previous accomplishments in a certain area, and behavioural reaction to favourable and adverse events can all work as regulators against the effects that particular experiences have on a person's level of life satisfaction. Researchers have found that personality traits like, neuroticism, extraversion and self-esteem are generally connected in a moderate to strong way with subjective well-being measures.

(Steel et al. 2008). The hypothesis of socioemotional selectivity suggests that individuals may actually experience an increase in happiness and life satisfaction as they age. (Carstensen, 1995). Throughout one's life, average life satisfaction levels can rise, fall, or stay mostly unchanged. Past investigations offer a few observations in favour of the hypothesis that life satisfaction either rises or stays the same throughout life. Stable life satisfaction levels across various groups have been documented across multiple cross-sectional studies. According to Inglehart (1990), there are hardly any age-related variations in the proportion of respondents who said they were "very happy" in cross-national sample studies. Certain aspects of subjective well-being may get better with age, according to other researches. (Mroczek and Kolarz, 1998).

Improving Satisfaction with Life:

To get a complete picture of total well-being, happiness experts usually mix these factors. On the other hand, the notion of broadening and building focuses on the unique function that good emotions play. Brief moments of happiness foster development and transformation throughout time, contributing to the development of resources - in this study, the ability to recognise opportunities and overcome adversity. Global life satisfaction can increase when an individual is feeling happy and making use of these resources to take advantage of life's chances and challenges.

The dearth of research and literature on the connection between life satisfaction and cybercrime awareness is by far the biggest disadvantage of this relationship. This is due to the fact that the majority of studies that are now available have gathered hard data and examined cybercrime in connection to criminology, information technology, and computational science. The relationship between cybercrime knowledge and life satisfaction is a relatively new topic that hasn't received much attention recently and needs more research.

REVIEW OF LITERATURES

Bansal et al (2024), in the given research, evaluated the correlation between mental health and cyberbullying through the method of bibliometric investigation. Further, the study also focused on indicating potential paths for exploration in this area. Data collection took place utilizing VOSviewer and spreadsheets which lead to the result of the study showcasing that various countries require further investigation in this field in addition to the fact that this area lacks detailed information and requires more exploration and investigation.

Aphane (2023), in the given research, studied the importance and complexities of upholding cyber safety, especially among the youth. The study also brought forward how the internet

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has become of great importance and dependence for not only companies and businesses but also for the common man to fulfil various needs and demands of daily life, specifically in the context of Covid 19 pandemic. The study utilized semi-structured interview method and the sample size was of thirty-seven male participants. Additionally, the initial researcher made use of twenty-nine participants for the interview who belonged to the age bracket of 19-35, out of which seventeen participants comprised of females while twelve participants comprised of males. In conclusion, the study brought forward how South Africa lacked the accurate measures in tackling cybercrimes.

Ahe (2022), in the given research, sought to investigate how different kinds of cybercrimes affect people on a psychological level in-depth. Additionally, the study also brought forward how an individual who's been a victim of cybercrime is emotionally affected such as they end up falling into the trap of lack of self-worth, anxiety and humiliation. Finally, for the research, participants were tested on the basis of their cybercrime experiences they encountered by evaluating the detrimental effects on the psychological mind by utilizing a self-generated scale. Further, it was postulated through the findings that people who have experienced cybercrime can lead them to experience detrimental psychological effects if they knew the cyber attacker previously.

Curtis & Oxburgh (2022), in the given research, evaluated the in-depth cybercrime rates and how these crimes need to be tackled with appropriate action. Additionally, people who experienced cybercrime were seen to be apprehensive to inform it to the police, according to the UK police. This was because the victims felt that the police may not be able to handle such cases due to lack of right equipment and guidance. Further, it was also brought forward through this study, that accurate knowledge in respect to cybercrime is not that common in terms of law enforcement. The study gave its conclusion by thoroughly shedding light on the interpersonal, social, informational and ambient circumstances that further influence cybercrimes to take place in today's time in addition to considering the relevant and common issues coming up related to cybercrime.

Deutrom, Katos & Ali (2022), in the given study investigated the detrimental effects of the recent Covid 19 pandemic on individual's troublesome internet usage, satisfaction with life along with loneliness. Additionally, it also focused on actions in respect to security of data online. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 299 UK individuals who happened to be doing their professional duties and responsibilities from home. Data collection was done by utilizing certain scales and questionnaires in addition to demographic details of the participants. The result of the study showcased that troublesome internet usage was negatively correlated with cyber security conduct along with satisfaction with life being again correlated negatively with troublesome internet usage. Further, the findings also suggest that loneliness among individuals had a positive correlation with troublesome internet usage.

Amankwa (2021), in the given study, aimed at investigating the need and importance of creating awareness regarding cybersecurity among educational settings. Further, the research paper has also shed light upon not having adequate and accurate knowledge and awareness about various cybercrimes and their consequences. Finally, the research concluded that the internal locus of control in addition to accurate knowledge and awareness among online users has proved to be low and moderate.

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Muhamad et al (2021), in the given research, focused on discovering the correlation between exposure, expertise, and the consequences of employing internet banking with cybercrimes involving finances. The research featured a survey with a sample size of 242 participants. According to the hypothesis formed for the study, the result of the research showcased that youngsters have been noticed to be evidently more aware regarding cybercrimes related to finances. Additionally, the team of researchers faced several shortcomings due to lack of valid information or facts. Moreover, the researchers concluded the research by discovering that Malaysia is known to be one of the countries to have lack of adequate information regarding internet banking.

Omar et al (2021), in the given research, focused on analysing awareness regarding security of data among Malaysian youth population. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 400 participants and the primary objective of the research was to investigate the pathway through which age influenced online users' knowledge and concern regarding security of data. The result evidently showed that there exists a substantial correlation between security of data and chronological age. Additionally, participants who belonged to the age bracket of 21-30 years demonstrated an increasing knowledge about security of data.

Tharshini et al (2021), in the given study, utilized qualitative research and focused upon the risks related to cybercrime throughout the execution of Malaysian Movement Control Order. The main objective behind this was to gain better insights regarding risks related to cybercrime. The study took participants out of which most of them were females between the age bracket of 18-28 years. Along with this, the study featured a survey with a sample size of 332 participants from the Malaysian population. Further, the research concluded that an overwhelming number of women were seen to be the recipients of online scams.

Abdullah & Jahan (2020), in the given study, have majorly made an attempt to understand the magnitude of cybercrimes taking place in today's time on an individual's life along with investigating the variables that trigger cybercrime victimization. Moreover, the research brought forward how the youngsters are the main target group that gets highly impacted due to several cybercrimes. Further, the study found out how sexual abuse, the luxury of having easy access to social media which leads to each person getting to know another individual's personal details, and lack of parental attention and control are some of the common factors leading to an increase in cybercrime rates among the youngsters currently.

Cheng et al (2020), in the given research, investigated the vulnerability of individuals in respect to cybercrimes and its correlation with lower or higher levels of IT self-efficacy. Further, the research also made an effort in exploring increased usage of IT devices leading to cybercrime victimization. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 1018 individuals from Hong Kong. Additionally, the research also focused on exploring the detrimental effects of cyber victimization and cybercrime activities on a person's personal relationships and well-being. The findings of the research were in accordance with the hypothesis and featured a strong correlation between cybercrime victimization and IT usage in addition to certain activities that give rise to an individual's probability of falling into the trap of becoming a cyber victim.

Choudhary (2020), in the given research, has examined cybercrime awareness among college going students from Haryana. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 500 students. The study was also inclusive of both, conventional as well as professional degrees.

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The findings of the research demonstrated two things: there was no gender disparities seen in cybercrime awareness among these students and the second finding was that students enrolled for the professional degrees were seen to be more aware about cybercrime in contrast to students who were enrolled in conventional degrees. The research also concluded that there was an immediate need to utilize and consider certain techniques that can be helpful in reducing these cybercrimes due to their increasing rates in current times.

Ibrahim et al (2020), in the given research, shed light on the significance of the internet in today's time in everyone's lives. Additionally, the study brought forward the harsh reality of the internet where it has managed to hamper the security of data in addition to the increasing cybercrimes. Finally, the study concluded that these various kinds of cybercrimes has a direct negative influence on the individual's overall well-being in addition to the overall image of technological expertise.

Lahcen et al (2020), in the given research, have focused on the psychological and behavioural elements of security of data online. The study has also spoken about how in recent times, people who indulge in cybercrimes have become even more clever in finding out brand new ways in challenging the security of data online as well as committing cybercrimes frequently. Additionally, the study stated that such cybercrimes are done by humans which is why there is an immediate need to dig up techniques to understand the behavioural elements of cybersecurity.

Mangintir, Tresniasari & Solicha (2020), in the given research, investigated whether people who lack social support and satisfaction with life are more prone to indulge into cyberbullying. The research featured a survey with a sample size of 225 pupils. The research utilized "Multidimensional Student Satisfaction with life Scale", "Cyberbullying Offending Scale", "and Interpersonal Social Evaluation List. The findings of the study brought forward that people indulge in cyberbullying even more in the case of experiencing constant dissatisfaction with their life as well as with themselves in addition to lack of support from their loved ones.

Bada & Nurse (2019), in the given study, examined the various components of cyber breaches, especially the psychological and societal ones. The study also aimed at gaining in-depth knowledge regarding cyberpsychology. Additionally, the research was keen on investigating the psychic of individuals who indulge in cybercrimes. In conclusion, the method opted by the researchers to study this area was through case analysis where they considered two individuals who were active cyber attackers over the years.

Dhillon & Kumar (2019), in the given research, has focused on the detrimental effects of social networking sites among the youngsters, especially regarding cyberbullying. Additionally, the qualitative research has also mentioned how cybercrimes such as cyberbullying can negatively lead to impacting a person's personality further giving rise to emotional instability. Finally, the research concluded that it is an ethical duty on the part of parents as well as teachers to guide youngsters and educate them regarding cybercrimes and its detrimental effects.

Goldsmith & Wall (2019), in the given study, investigated youngster's online conduct and provided detailed attention as to why they end up indulging in cybercrimes. Further, the research also shed light and analysed various reasons why youngsters are more prone to fall

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into the trap of cybercrimes by focusing on the luxuries of the internet available. This study utilized the affordance theory and picked up the understanding of “seduction” from Katz’s work. The study concluded, that there is a significant requirement to impose certain rules and regulations regarding the online conduct of these youngsters in addition to understanding the repercussions of these cyber law- breaking actions.

Peled (2019), in the given research, delved into understanding the impact of cyberbullying on emotional, academics and social aspects of the college going students. The research featured a survey with a sample size of 638 Israel young adults who were studying in college. Additionally, there were some factors that were considered for this research, which were, religion, gender and sexual choices. Further, the findings of the research showcased that almost 50 % of the students were victims of cyberbullying one or two times in their lifetime. In conclusion, it was also brought forward that the most prevalent method to engage in cyberbullying was through messaging instantly.

Kanayama (2017), in the given research, focused upon figuring out and analysing major components of crimes committed online in a country like Japan. The research was executed by featuring a survey in relation with victimization and the study showcased that Japan is experiencing a significant increase in cyber victimization rates among other countries which is concerning. Finally, the research also made an attempt in suggesting certain techniques that can be further considered in order to tackle the entire issue of increasing cybercrime rates.

Hasan et al (2015), in the given study, investigated the correlation between various factors in respect to cybercrime such as the link between perception, age, gender and knowledge along with the link between awareness, age, gender and knowledge. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 342 accountancy students from the Teknologi University MARA (UiTM). Further, they utilized a questionnaire that consisted of the seven most widespread cybercrimes in addition to demographic information. The result of the study evidently showed that there was poorer awareness regarding cybercrime among students in the age range of 18-23 years in comparison to the students between the age range of 24 years and older. Additionally, the research also confirmed that in contrast to the males, female students have more knowledge about cybercrimes. Moreover, it has also been found out from the study, that highly educated students have showcased more awareness related to cybercrimes.

Sun et al (2015), in the given study, made an effort to investigate and bring together all the previous research in relation with techniques that may be utilized to examine certain online behaviours that might be considered a crime over the past few years. Additionally, the research also evaluated certain techniques that may be taken into consideration in order to determine several cybercrimes. In the end, the study concluded by showcasing several techniques and perspectives based on crimes done online and their investigation.

Shahnaz, Ishrat & Karim (2014), in the given research, investigated how young adults’ life involvement and happiness were influenced due to high internet addiction. The study featured 210 students from college. The result of the research showcased that several social media platforms have a higher association with internet addiction. Additionally, the findings also brought forward the most common activities associated with internet addiction such as watching pornography, online gaming and chatting.

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Kamal et al (2012), in the given research, focused on highlighting various kinds of online crimes taking place in Bangladesh. The research featured sample size of 30 participants. The findings of the research showcased that computers viruses, online hackers, and pornographic sites frequently target individuals on internet platforms. Additionally, the study also shed light on the fact cyber-crime has been considered as not an extensive issue in the domain of research work.

METHODOLOGY

An overview of the statistical features of the study, including sampling strategies, research designs, data collection strategies, and data analysis processes, is given in the section on research methodology. The objective of this overview is to provide a thorough understanding of the implementation of statistical techniques in the research process. It highlights the selected research design and the use of statistical analysis.

Aim:

To find the relationship between Cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults.

Objective:

1. To assess the relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults.
2. To assess whether cybercrime awareness predicts satisfaction with life among Indian young adults.

Hypothesis:

- H1- There will be a significant relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life.
- H2-. Cybercrime awareness will predict satisfaction with life among Indian young adults.

Research Design:

The research approach opted for this study was cross-sectional along with Correlation, Regression, and ANOVA to understand the relationship between the chosen variables at a given point in time, and standardized tests were used with the help of the survey method to collect that data.

Variables:

- **Independent Variable-** Cybercrime Awareness
- **Dependent Variable-** Satisfaction with Life

Sample & Its Selection

Random Sampling method was utilized to recruit a representative sample of 200 Indian young adults between the age of 18-25 years from the target population. While data collection the following inclusive and exclusive criteria were considered-

Inclusion criteria:

1. Participants that fall between the age of 18-25 years
2. Belong to Delhi NCR

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3. Participants belonging to the Indian race.

Exclusion Criteria:

1. Participants below the age of 18 years of age and above the age of 25 years of age.
2. Participants belong to Delhi NCR.
3. Participants belonging to any other race other than Indian.

Description of Tools:

The tools utilized for the purpose of this survey were the validated measures of 36-item version of the Cybercrime Awareness Scale by Dr. S. Rajasekar to measure Cybercrime awareness and Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS) which was designed by Ed Diener and his colleagues to measure global satisfaction with life.

Cybercrime Awareness Scale by Dr. S. Rajasekar contains 36-items and uses a 5-point scale ranging from Strongly agree to strongly disagree, with positive and negative items respectively. It has been used in previous studies, thus, found to have a good reliability and validity. It seeks to evaluate people's comprehension, awareness and knowledge of many areas relevant to cybercrime. The intent of this scale is to gauge people's awareness about cyberthreats, countermeasures, laws, and the possible repercussions of engaging in suspicious activity.

Life Satisfaction (SWLS) which was designed by Ed Diener was administered using the 5-item. It contains 5-items and uses 7-point scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. The language used for the scale items is relatively broad and nonspecific, allowing the respondents to evaluate their overall satisfaction with life subjectively.

Procedure

After Selection of tools and objectives to be pursued, a questionnaire comprising of both the two scales was handed out to individuals who were part of the age bracket of 18-25 years of age, belonging to Delhi NCR. Each person who gave their consent, was given the questionnaire at random. Certain measures were also taken during data collection such as a calm and quiet atmosphere maintained, instructions read out clearly to the participants and all queries addressed, some time was also given for rapport formation with the participants, and they were also reassured about the confidentiality of their scores.

Statistical Analysis:

After handing out the instruments to the sample, the data collected was examined and evaluated and the following statistical techniques were applied to gain inferences.

- **Correlational Analysis-** This tool was utilized to understand the association between the selected variables and the impact they have on one another.
- **Linear Regression** – Addressed the effect of one variable on another and the level of variance they had on each other.
- **Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)** – It aimed at highlighting the difference between the scores achieved by the 2 selected groups.
- **Statistical Package for the Social Sciences-** The software was utilized in analyzing and exploring the data that was collected.

RESULT

Post data collection and scoring the sample was analysed with the help of the SPSS software to test the initial prediction. This involved using Pearson’s Correlation to understand the relationship between the variables, Regression to know how one variable can predict the other and Kruskal Wallis ANOVA to identify any significant differences amongst the chosen groups. The Mean and Standard Deviation of the two variables are as follows:

Table 1- Descriptive Statistics of the data collected for Cybercrime Awareness and Satisfaction with life

Variable	Mean	Standard Deviation
Cybercrime Awareness	136.99	16.53
Satisfaction with life	22.94	7.04

On average, respondents in the sample have a moderate level of cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life with a mean score of 136.99 and 22.94 respectively. The standard deviation suggests that there is some variability in cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life scores among respondents, with scores ranging around 16.53 points from the mean for cybercrime awareness and 7.04 points from the mean for satisfaction with life.

Correlational Analysis

Table 2- Pearson’s correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life

	Life Satisfaction	Cybercrime Awareness
Satisfaction with life	1	-0.111
Cybercrime Awareness	-0.111	1

Table 2 represents the coefficient of correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life. The correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life was not significant and negative.

Regression Analysis

Table 3 linear regression table with cybercrime awareness as predictor of satisfaction with life

Predictor	Criterion: Satisfaction with life								
	B	S.E.	β	t	R	R2	Adj. R2	α	F
Cybercrime Awareness	-0.18	0.11	-0.11	1.57	0.11	0.01	0.01	140.73	2.48

Table 3 represents the linear regression with cybercrime awareness as the predictor of satisfaction with life. The model did not present a significant fit. Hence, there was no variance explained by cybercrime awareness on satisfaction with life.

DISCUSSION

In the present primary research, the researcher investigated the relationship between Cybercrime Awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults. The goal of the study was to assess the relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults. Additionally, the study also focused on assessing whether cybercrime awareness predicts satisfaction with life among Indian young adults. The variables selected for this study were cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life. The

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data was collected through random sampling method with a sample size of 200 Indian young adults. According to the inclusion criteria, only those individuals could take part in the data collection who belonged to the age bracket of 18-25 years and who belonged to the Indian race. Furthermore, it was determined that the participants attempting the questionnaire, belonged to the Delhi NCR. The tools utilized for the purpose of this survey were the validated measures of 36-item version of the Cybercrime Awareness Scale by Dr. S. Rajasekar to measure Cybercrime awareness. It contains 36-items and uses a 5-point scale ranging from Strongly agree to strongly disagree, with positive and negative items respectively. Life Satisfaction was administered using the 5-items Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS) which was designed by Ed Diener and his colleagues to measure global satisfaction with life. It contains 5-items and uses 7-point scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. To support findings, research work done by Mali et al (2018), aimed at examining the awareness regarding cybercrime and further employing pertinent structure for cyberwarfare. The study featured a survey through which certain loopholes came forward. One of the significant loopholes that came to be noticed was that there existed no proper theoretical definition of both cyberwarfare as well as cybercrime, which can be considered to be tricky as without a proper theoretical explanation of these two terms, it is very complicated to gain insights about the issues connected to it amongst individuals. In addition to this, it also makes it difficult to recognize the occurrence of cyberwarfare. The study employed a survey with a sample size of 326 participants and focused on assessing their awareness related to cybercrime and their problems related to security of data. The findings shed light on the fact that the participants showcased slightly lack of awareness in respect to cybercrime and cautions in some regions in spite of having excellent levels of assurance and confidence in relation to cybercrime threats. In line with the hypothesis which states Cybercrime awareness will predict satisfaction with life among Indian young adults, the results showed that respondents generally had a moderate level of awareness of cybercrime and satisfaction with life. Having the mean score of 136.99, cybercrime awareness demonstrates an adequate comprehension of internet security risks. Additionally, according to the data collected, satisfaction with life obtained a mean score of 22.94, representing moderate level of satisfaction with life. Although there is a disparity between the scores of cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among the participants', the results suggest that few individuals may have an excellent cybercrime awareness and some may not have the same. Furthermore, the levels of satisfaction also differed among the participants. This difference in the scores underlines the significance of comprehending and understanding unique characteristics of individuals in addition to modifying the solutions accordingly. To support the findings, research work done by Cheng et al (2020), investigated the vulnerability of individuals in respect to cybercrimes and its correlation with lower or higher levels of IT self-efficacy. Further, the research also made an effort in exploring increased usage of IT devices leading to cybercrime victimization. The study featured a survey with a sample size of 1018 individuals from Hong Kong. Additionally, the research also focused on exploring the detrimental effects of cyber victimization and cybercrime activities on a person's personal relationships and well-being. The findings of the research were in accordance with the hypothesis and featured a strong correlation between cybercrime victimization and IT usage in addition to certain activities that give rise to an individual's probability of falling into the trap of becoming a cyber victim. Since the study focused on gaining an insight regarding the relationship between the two variables chosen, which is, cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults, the correlational analysis determined that there is a negative correlation between these two variables suggesting that the relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life is

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not significant. According to the theoretical explanation of a negative correlation, one variable increases while the other variables is likely to decrease. Referring to this theoretical explanation, the study evidently showcased that as Cybercrime awareness increased, satisfaction with life decreased among the participants who were part of the sample size. This sheds light on the fact that due to insufficient statistical importance, the correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life is anticipated to be insignificant, irrelevant and unstable outside the group of participants considered. These results suggest that within the sample study, there seems to be no relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life, which is why additional investigation is require to independently validate this result. Further, regression analysis was also employed in order to understand the impact of cybercrime awareness on satisfaction with life. After conducting the regression analysis, it was found that cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life disclose no variance among them. This is a case of a perfect multicollinearity which takes place when the independent variables of a regression model are precisely linear in respect to the other independent variables. According to this, the results of the study determine that cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life are essentially overlapping and are seen to be providing identical results to the model.

Limitations

The research design faced specific challenges which includes data accessibility, constrained research, restricted research and research specialization. These constraints potentially have impacted the following parts of the study:

- **Time Constraints-** Due to time limitations, the researcher was unable to carry out an in-depth study on assessing cybercrime awareness among Indian Young Adults and its Impact on their Satisfaction with life. Due to time constraints, appropriate treatments could not be investigated.
- **Cross sectional Design-** The researcher utilized cross-sectional design which is known to restrict the findings of the study to a given period of time.
- **Access to Information-** The study obtained data collected data employing self - report measures which may be prejudiced. Limited information obtained through surveys is known to influence the findings' comprehensiveness.

Implications

Going further, the above-mentioned limitations can be regarded as guidelines for carrying out additional research. Regardless of the limitations, the study also made certain notable contributions:

- It added to the current literature, concerning the relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life, as only limited work has been presented on the same.
- The study also provided insight regarding the association between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life, and the results interpreted a negative correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults.
- The cross-sectional study can also be utilized to formulate and imply changes regarding more effective techniques to prevent cybercrimes.

CONCLUSION

The study focused on assessing cybercrime awareness among Indian young adults and its impact on their satisfaction with life. Further, the study's objective was to assess the

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relationship between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life in addition to assessing whether cybercrime awareness predicts satisfaction with life among Indian young adults. In contrast to the existing literature available, the results of this study revealed a negative correlation between cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life among Indian young adults which indicates that as Cybercrime awareness increases, satisfaction with life decreases among the group of subjects chosen for this study. This clarifies that the association between satisfaction with life and awareness about cybercrime is likely to be weak, irrelevant and unstable outside the group of subjects taken into consideration for this study. This showcases lack of statistical significance. Additionally, further research can prove to be helpful in shedding light on some of the variables affecting cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life which includes changing patterns of the society in addition to differences among individuals. Moreover, how cybercrime awareness and satisfaction with life levels over time are influenced can be studied through longitudinal research work by considering socioeconomic circumstances and upcoming cyberthreats.

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Conflict of Interest

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